

## TKE Announces a Star-studded Literary Lineup for Early Summer: Save the Dates!!!

There are, as you're about to see in this spring edition of the *Inkslinger*, a raft of wonderful books already out or coming to TKE in April. *The Overstory* by Richard Powers, for one, is a book you'll never forget and one that might just change your life. It, along with other fascinating, compelling or otherwise noteworthy novels and works of nonfiction, and terrifying if sometimes funny mysteries and thrillers, will while away sleepless nights and rainy days—one of the many wonderful things about books.

Books like *The Overstory* truly are transformative; once read they will never let you go. The authors who write such books are the icons of readers everywhere, and sometimes we are lucky enough to bring them to The King's English, to visit with all of you. Over the years



**Craig Childs**

Thursday, May 17



**Temple Grandin**

Wednesday, May 30



**Michael Ondaatje**

Saturday, May 26



**Jennifer Egan**

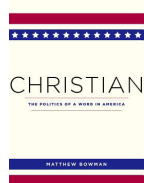
Monday, June 4

many have come to call. But one at a time. Or, if we're very lucky, two in a given year. Seldom do the literary icons of our time parade through our city and our store one after another.

Not until early this summer, when, we're thrilled to say, we are hosting

a procession of authors so fabulous that we can hardly believe our good fortune. To begin with, there's Michael Ondaatje. I've said more than once that if Michael Ondaatje would just visit our store one time before I die or retire I'd happily do either. And not only is he coming, but he's doing so to present and read from an extraordinary book—perhaps his best ever. You'll get a full look at that magnificent book, *Warlight*, in our Summer *Inkslinger* coming in late May. And a close-up look at him, along with the above authors! *Continued on page 2*

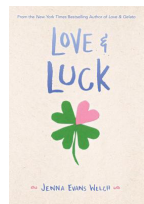
## Spring into TKE for these Events!



**Saturday, April 14, 4 p.m.** In honor of Poetry month, Chris Greene, Elise Paschen, and Valerie Wallace will join us to share their work.

**Saturday, April 21, 7 p.m.** Matthew Bowman returns to Utah with his new book, *Christian: The Politics of a Word in America*.

**Saturday, April 28, 5 p.m.** Amy Trueblood, McKelle George, and Sarah Cleverly will be in conversation about current YA books.

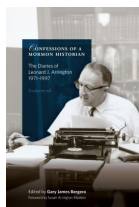
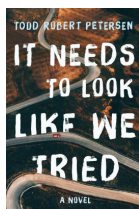
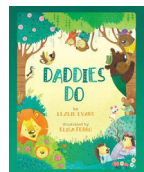


**Thursday, May 3, 7 p.m.** Todd Robert Peterson will read from and sign his new novel, *It Needs to Look Like We Tried*.

**Tuesday, May 8, 7 p.m.** Jenna Evans Welch will debut her novel, *Love & Luck*.

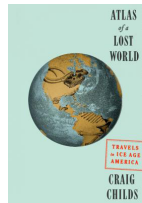
**Thursday, May 10, 7 p.m.** Gary Bergera will discuss his comprehensive work, *Confessions of a Mormon Historian: The Diaries of Leonard J. Arrington 1971-1999*.

**Friday, May 11, 11 a.m.** Join us for a special storytime with Lezlie Evans and *Daddies Do*.



**Saturday, May 12, 6 p.m.** "The Great American Read" premieres on PBS stations.

**Saturday, May 12, 7 p.m.** University of Utah professor Maximilian Werner will share his new essay collection, *The Bone Pile: Essays on Nature and Culture*.



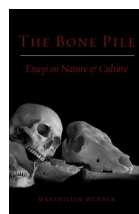
**Thursday, May 17, 7 p.m.** Craig Childs returns to Utah with *Atlas of a Lost World: Travels in Ice Age America*.

**Saturday, May 19, 4 p.m.** Teri Harman and others will be with us to discuss summer romance reads.

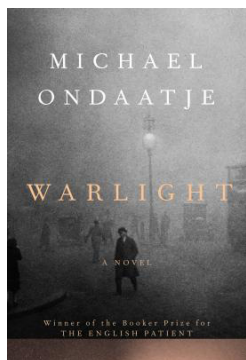
**Saturday, May 19, 7 p.m.** John Branch will read from and discuss *The Last Cowboys: A Pioneer Family in the New West*.



**Thursday, May 31, 7 p.m.** Ann Cannon will read from and discuss her new collection of columns from *The Salt Lake Tribune I'll Tell You What...*

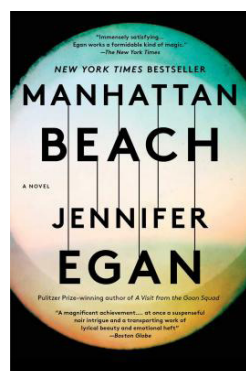


## Star-studded Literary Lineup Cont'd

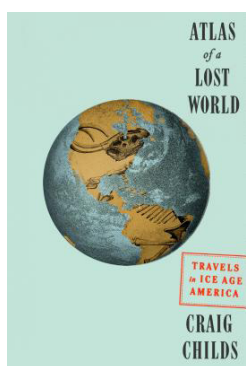


Author of, among many brilliant works of fiction and nonfiction, the Booker prize-winning novel *The English Patient*, Ondaatje has a miraculous way of mining history and culture while simultaneously ravishing the reader, quickening both our hearts and our minds—never more evident than in his forthcoming novel about two children whose mother has disappeared in the aftermath of WWII. . .

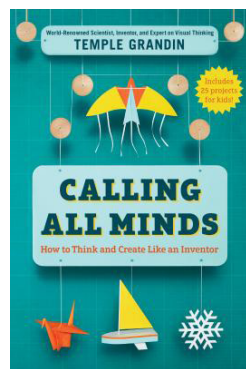
Early June brings us Jennifer Egan, author of the award-winning *A Visit From the Goon Squad*, a wild and wacky, inventive and musical, surprising and surprisingly moving, completely groundbreaking novel that won, among other awards and honors, The National Book Critics Circle Award. And, new in paper this May, her equally award-winning, equally mesmerizing yet utterly different *Manhattan Beach*, historical fiction that takes place before and during WWII and is immersive, compelling, mysterious, threading together the social forces of an era and placing in the center of the web so created a woman out of her time. A woman of our time. A woman after all our hearts.



Fierce and fearless environmentalist, Craig Childs returns to Salt Lake with his new book *Atlas of a Lost World: Travels in Ice Age America*. Leaving the Southwest of some of his best known works (*Finders, Keepers, Soul of Nowhere*) Childs investigates the ancient land bridge between Asia and North America and reports some startling findings. Yes, some of the First People did cross the land bridge some 40,000 years ago but that wasn't the only way they came over. Prepare to be wowed!



Another iconic figure of our generation, Temple Grandin, has done more to create understanding for those in our midst with special needs than anyone we know, tirelessly teaching and writing, publishing, presenting and in the process pulling special populations into the larger world that once excluded them. Her groundbreaking new book for children—all children—and for their parents is *Calling All Minds: How to Think and Create Like an Inventor*. Grandin looks at the world from outside and above and sees it—and us—more clearly than just about anyone. We are thrilled that she's coming to TKE!



## Indie Bookstore Day Is Back!



**INDEPENDENT  
BOOKSTORE DAY**  
SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 2018

lunch.

**11 a.m.-3 p.m.** Nuzzles & Co. will be here finding forever homes for furry friends. Cats! Dogs! Oh My!

**11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.** Learn about bees with our friends from the University of Utah's Beekeeping Association.



**2 p.m.** Test your knowledge and participate in our Bees Knees Spelling Bee where readers of all ages will compete for sweet prizes.

Indie Bookstore Day collectible items this year include a *Book Club Journal* featuring reading lists from David Sedaris, John Waters, Lauren Groff, Stephen King, Martin Cruz Smith and more; and a Bad Citizen stencil by Margaret Atwood with the phrase, "Don't Let the Bastards Get You Down." We'll also have a flash fiction collection called *Book of the Table*, and free copies of *Feminism: A Very Short Introduction from Oxford University Press*. For the younger set, we'll have a darling onesie featuring *Dragon Love Tacos*! So join us, join in the fun and frivolity and support your local Indie Bookstore! That's Saturday, April 28th, all day.

And once again if you visit four northern Utah independent bookshops on Independent Bookstore Day and complete the Indie Bookstore Day Passport you'll be eligible to win free books!

### FREE AUDIOBOOKS TOO!



Audiobooks give you the ability to listen to great books, anytime and anywhere. The King's English is partnering with **Libro.fm** to offer monthly memberships and a special Indie Bookstore Day offer on Saturday, April 28th, to thank you for your support. Our Indie Bookstore Day offer includes five free audiobooks + two samplers including the #1

Indie Next Pick, *Tangerine* by Christine Mangan. Create your Libro.fm account now at [www.kingsenglish.com](http://www.kingsenglish.com) so you will be ready to get your free audiobooks on April 28th...then come celebrate with us at the store!



# For Mother's Day, Father's Day, or Any Other Fine Spring Day:

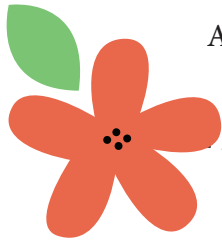
## *I'll Tell You What...*, Ann Edwards Cannon

If you're from Utah, you've undoubtedly heard of Lavell Edwards, beloved coach of the BYU football team for many years. What you probably don't know was that he would often start a conversation with, "I'll Tell You What..." Luckily for us, we have his daughter, Ann, in the flesh— she's been (among other things) a part-time bookseller at TKE for many years. And now, we are so pleased to tell you that Ann has collected some of her favorite *Salt Lake Tribune* columns in this funny and tender tribute to her family and most especially, to her dad. You'll laugh, you'll cry, you'll be glad you bought this book! -Anne Holman, TKE Ink, \$15.95 *Editor's note: Please join us in celebrating the publication of Ann Cannon's new book at TKE on Thursday May 31 at 7 p.m.!!!!*

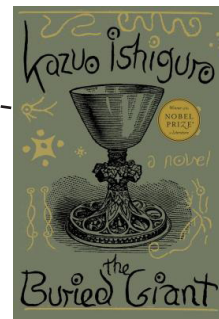
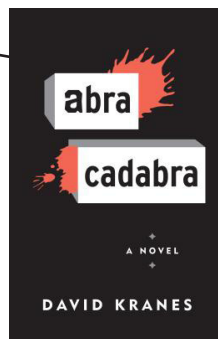


## WHAT OUR BOOK CLUBS ARE READING NOW

All are open to the public and meet at the bookshop unless otherwise noted.



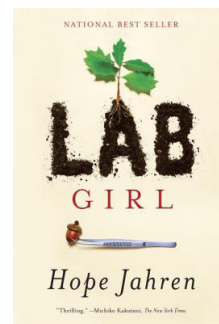
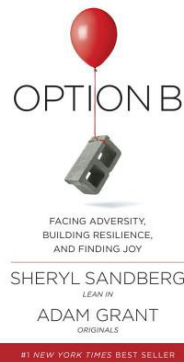
**ARMCHAIR TRAVEL MYSTERY**  
3rd Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m.  
**April: *Abracadabra*, David Krane**



**SECOND MONDAY**  
2nd Monday of the month; 7 p.m.  
\$5

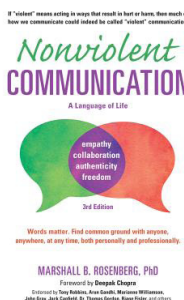
**April: *The Buried Giant*, Kazuo Ishiguro**

**BRIAN SHORT**  
2nd Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m.  
**April: *Option B: Facing Adversity, Building Resilience, and Finding Joy*, Sheryl Sandberg**

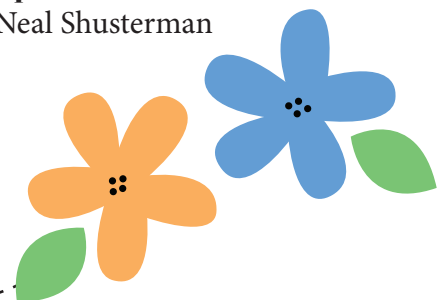


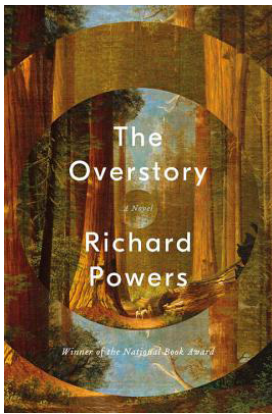
**ROZ READS!**  
Last Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. See [www.rozreads.com](http://www.rozreads.com) for details. \$10 per evening paid to Roz  
**April: *Lab Girl*, Hope Jahren**

**GREEN STREET FARM**  
Every Tuesday at 848 Green Street, 6 p.m. Contact [848greenstreetfarm@gmail.com](mailto:848greenstreetfarm@gmail.com)  
**April: *Nonviolent Communication: A Language of Life*, Marshall Rosenberg**



**YA & WINE**  
**April: *Thunderhead*, Neal Shusterman**





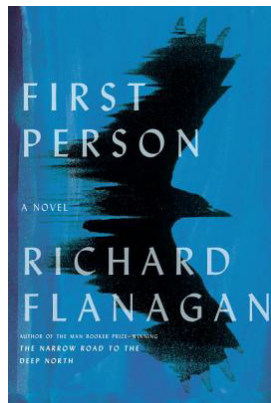
**The Overstory**, Richard Powers

Reading Power's new novel is a bit like reading the *Bible*—it's voluminous, lyrical, passionate, compelling, chockfull of fascinating characters, of tales that span years and continents, and beneath its overarching, endlessly compelling story lies one central truth: in this case, the truth of trees. Unlike the *Bible*, *The Overstory* is grounded in science as intriguing as the tales it tells, as fascinating as the cast of characters who trek the forests and track the pathways of the internet

Powers pulls us into. A research scientist, two voracious readers, an artist, an engineer, a statistician, a techie to the nth degree, trees of every imaginable variety, all interact across species and interests and inclination in a breathtaking book that enchants you, angers you, takes away your hope, gives it back....the ride of a lifetime. The ride of our collective lifetime. Our overstory. Do not miss it. Give a copy to everyone you know. Spread the word. This is a life-changing book. – Betsy Burton, Norton, 27.95

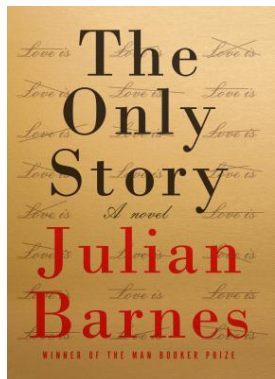
**First Person**, Richard Flanagan

Kif Kehlmann, an unsuccessful novelist, is given the opportunity to ghost-write an autobiography of Siegfried Heidl, a con man on his way to an Australian prison. Over four weeks Kif works with Heidl in Melbourne, to no avail. The con man dances around every effort to reveal any true details of his life, leaving Kif desperate, as he is without resources to care for his young family back in Hogarth, Tasmania. The publisher's fee he can earn will make all the difference, and he can then resume his passion, his own book. But what is truth? For that matter what is evil? He has been warned by his best friend, also employed by Heidl, that to get close to him is to lose your soul. And is the reader reading the autobiography of Heidl or of Kehlmann? Following his Booker winner, *The Narrow Road to the Deep North*, Flanagan spins a frightening tale that questions the very worth of humanism or goodness in mankind. – Sue Fleming, Knopf, \$26.95



**The Only Story**, Julian Barnes

Barnes (*Sense of an Ending*) has written a story about mourning, about memory, and ultimately about love. The narrator, Paul, is remembering and telling the story of his first love as a young man, an affair with an older woman that set his life on a path of highs and lows, due to a devotion that lasted decades. But as Paul reminisces, that initial burst of unrelenting passion evolves into a different story, one involving a woman's life that is full of

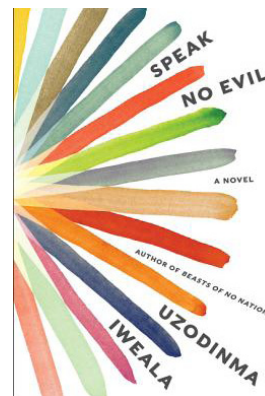
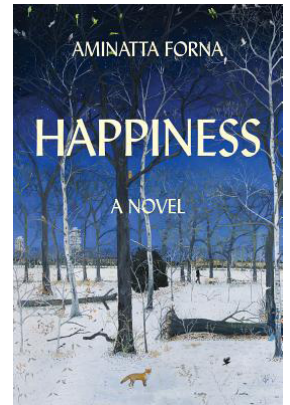


other people—an abusive husband, daughters, therapists—none of which fit easily into the initial explosion of desire. Paul's parents loom large in the tale because of his youth, and as reality intrudes and his

innocence is eroded, Paul is left ruminating on the power of love, literally for the rest of his life. If your book group had a memorable discussion about *On Chesil Beach*, you should put *The Only Story* on your reading list. – Margaret Brennan Neville, Knopf, \$25.95

**Happiness**, Aminatta Forna

Two scientists, one an American naturalist who's studying the lifeway of the urban fox, the other a Ghanaian psychiatrist who's studying the impact of trauma on the brain and on human behavior, collide, literally, on a bridge in London. That collision is figurative as well as literal, however, since their encounter creates not just a connection but an unraveling, a re-veling, that has consequences for them both. All of which sounds neat and tidy but like life, there is nothing tidy or neat about this intriguing, sometimes touching, often funny tale, weaving as it does an ardent chase down urban streets in search of a fox, of a missing child, of an old love, with a search for truth through the muddiness of misinformed beliefs and convictions. *Happiness* is a skillfully constructed, wonderfully written and complicated novel but also a fast-moving one; I couldn't put it down and I can't quit thinking about it. – Betsy Burton, Atlantic Monthly Press, \$26

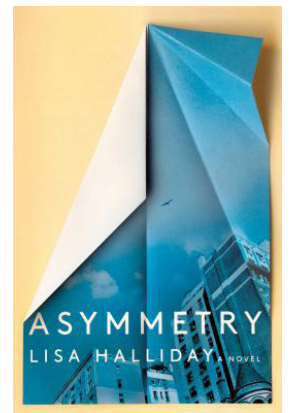


**Speak No Evil**, Uzodinma Iweala

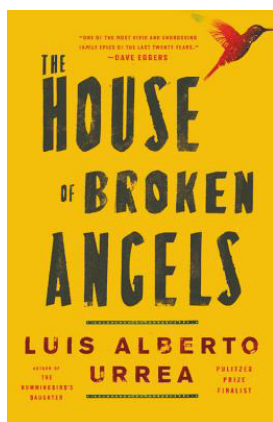
High school senior Niru seems to live a perfect life, but this Harvard-bound athletic star is gay, though no one knows except his best friend, Meredith. When his father accidentally discovers his sexuality, every aspect of Niru's life seems to implode in this beautifully written, heart-wrenching story. This short novel about choice and consequence is an unforgettable journey, impossible to look away from. – Rachel Haisley, Harper, \$26.99

**Asymmetry**, Lisa Halliday

A novel about a young editorial assistant falling into an out-of-balance affair with an aging literary luminary (read Philip Roth) abuts another story, this a first-person narrative of a young Iraqi-American man whose brother has disappeared and who is being held at Heathrow. The reader, engrossed in first one tale, then the other, and wondering what, exactly, they have to do with one another, turns to part three, an interview with the now even older literary luminary, and begins to tie together the overlapping themes involving the asymmetry of relationships, whether sexual or familial, the asymmetry of fates based on geography and on wealth. Skillfully written, daringly structured, laced with humor, irony, and sadness, *Asymmetry*, which recently received the 2017 Whiting Award, is an amazing debut. – Betsy Burton, Simon & Schuster, \$26







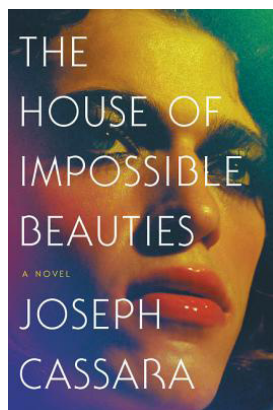
***The House of Broken Angels,***  
Luis Alberto Urrea

Big Angel is dying of cancer. He's 71 and has planned his upcoming birthday as a celebration and a farewell; when his mother dies before him that day, he hastens her funeral to create a sort of double header, her funeral, followed immediately by his birthday—which could turn into his funeral at any moment—back-to-back on two successive days. What follows is pure chaos, joyful one minute, heart-breaking the next, then laugh-out-loud funny or wracked with high drama or

drenched with sex, or with affection or all of the above, sometimes simultaneously. Big Angel transports himself along halls and in and out of rooms in real time and wanders across borders and years in past time, revisiting scenes emblazoned in memory, creating new ones in the present accompanied by his wife, his children, his siblings (most especially Little Angel) in a blissfully good novel that is at once mythic and utterly, compellingly human. – Betsy Burton, Little Brown, \$27

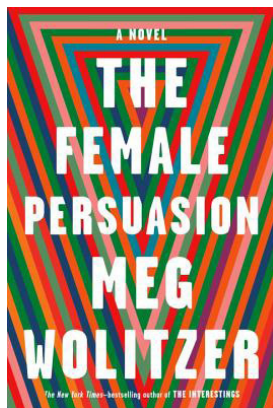
***The House of Impossible Beauties,*** Joseph Cassara

Joseph Cassara's debut novel follows the life of Angel, a young transgender woman who goes on to become the "House Mother" of the legendary House of Xtravaganza. Gritty, yet always tender, *House of Impossible Beauties* explores the 1980s Harlem drag ball scene made famous in Jennie Livingston's documentary "Paris Is Burning" in a way that is humanizing, deeply interesting, and impossible to put down. I was so entranced with this book that I went through it twice: once on the page and once on audio, which might have been an even more interesting experience, simply because narrator Christian Barillas gives a singular performance, uniquely emulating each character in a way that tattoos them indelibly on the mind. – Rachel Haisley, Ecco, \$26.99 *Editor's note: The audio version is available through our new partnership with Libro.fm. Sign up with The King's English on their website (Libro.fm) to get your first audiobook for \$0.99!:* <https://libro.fm/indie-partners/resources>



***The Female Persuasion,*** Meg Wolitzer

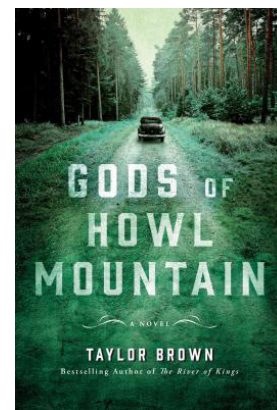
What does it mean to be a feminist? Ambitious? What makes a good parent? Just how important is an Ivy League education and concomitantly, once achieved, what does one do with it? When is betrayal forgivable and when is deception not forgivable? What fulfills us and what hollows us out? Who are we really, anyway? All are questions, themes, if you will, woven into Wolitzer's immensely readable novel about Greer Kadetsky, her childhood sweetheart Cory, their families,



Greer's close friend Zee, and her mentor, famed aging feminist Faith Frank. Intimate and engaging but never cloying, crisply written, and highly readable *The Female Persuasion* is as timely as a book can be, combining a dead-eyed look at society and women's place in it with an engrossing tale—today's version of the eternal human comedy. – Betsy Burton, Riverhead, \$28

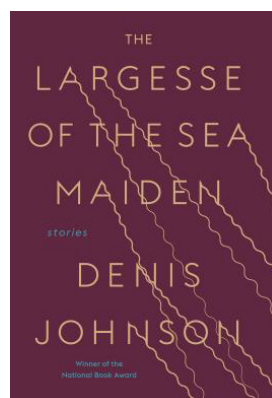
***Gods of Howl Mountain,*** Taylor Brown

In the high country of 1950s North Carolina, Rory Docherty and his granny, Maybelline Docherty, survive by whiskey running. Rory's mother lives in a mental institution, not having spoken a word since she was involved in some violent act 20 years earlier. Rory does not know what happened or who is responsible and his granny won't tell. This tale is dark and compelling, a novel of family secrets, vengeance and love. It is the third novel for Brown and is just as lyrically written as his first two, *Fallen Land*, and *The River of Kings*. His writing is reminiscent of *Cold Mountain*, so beautiful, I found myself rereading paragraphs just to see and feel the land as he writes of it. Perfect follow-up to *Hillbilly Elegy*. – Sue Fleming, St Martin's Press, \$25.99



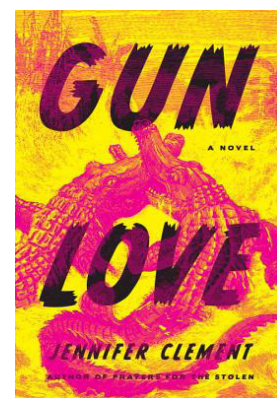
***The Largesse of the Sea Maiden,***  
Denis Johnson

National Book Award-winning author Denis Johnson's most recent collection of short stories is a tantalizing taste of the late author's talent. Reminiscent of literary greats such as Raymond Carver and Lucia Berlin, Johnson is an unforgettable storyteller with a beautiful, resonant voice that manages to be both terrifying and comforting all at once. – Rachel Haisley, Random House, \$27



***Gun Love,*** Jennifer Clement

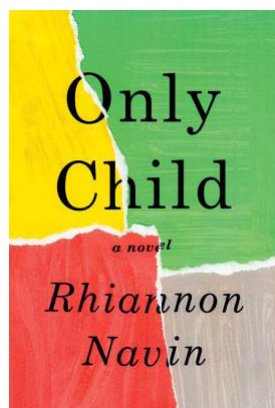
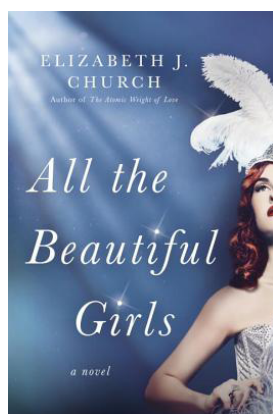
As far back as Pearl can remember, she and her mother have lived inside a 1994 Mercury Topaz parked outside of a trailer park near the town dump in the deeply conservative heart of Florida. When gun dealer Eli Redmond stumbles into her mother's life, the calm patterns of their household are upended by his larger-than-life personality and the violence that seems to follow him everywhere. Witty, sharp-voiced and hypnotic, Clement's deft prose and full-throated metaphors captivate in this one-of-a-kind novel. – Rachel Haisley, Hogarth, \$25



***All the Beautiful Girls,*** Elizabeth J. Church

"Dance, when you're broken open." Thus begins this story of a very broken young girl from the Midwest, who defies her conservative upbringing to sculpt herself into a gorgeous showgirl. Tragedy marks Lily's little 8-year-old self, hardship and abuse follow her elementary years, dance and a mysterious benefactor save her. When she rein-

vents herself as Ruby, the Vegas showgirl, her dark past haunts her, and she resorts to self-abuse hoping to free her mind of those memories. Her desperate choices inform her life, and her secrets color the woman she becomes. We see into the Vegas world of the '60s, its high times of the big-name performers that Ruby rubs shoulders with as she becomes the best and most famous of the Follies girls. When tragedy strikes her again, she must finally come to grips with her ugly secret and find her true self and her mysterious benefactor to reveal the real beauty within. – Anne Stewart Mark, Ballantine Books, \$27

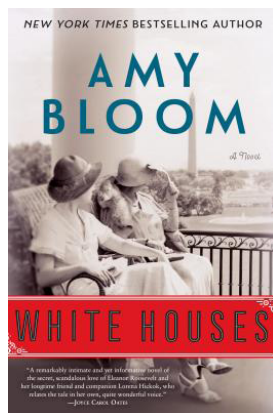


**Only Child**, Rhiannon Navin

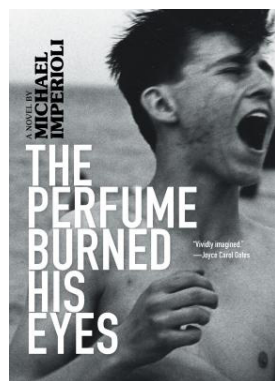
Narrated by first-grader Zach Taylor, Rhiannon Navin's first novel explores the pain of a community during and after a school shooting. Impossible to look away from, this timely novel about anger, pain, love, loss, heartbreak, and redemption is a must-read for anyone trying to make sense of senseless violence.

– Rachel Haisley, Knopf, \$25.95

**White Houses**, Amy Bloom



This is a beautiful love story of two famous women at a time when such things were forbidden and scandal was always a danger. The relationship between these two lost souls was intimate and intriguing, although Lorene Hickok and Eleanor Roosevelt were not immediately drawn to each other. "Hick" (as she was known to her friends and readers), a journalist from very humble beginnings and Eleanor, of patrician upbringing, were thrown together by FDR's first presidential campaign. In Hick's narrative voice, we learn of the connection, the love, the intimacy, and in the end the powerful passion of two very different women who learn to accept their positions within the White House confines while still retaining their different philosophies, jobs, and relationships to the outside world. Bloom brings both women to life in a well-researched and expansive rendering that is frank, funny and touching. – Anne Stewart Mark, Random House, \$27



**The Perfume Burned His Eyes**, Michael Imperioli

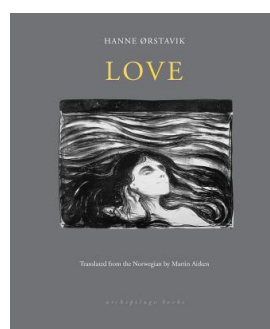
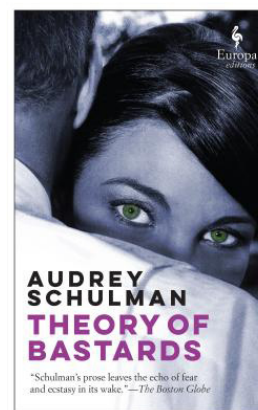
Matthew is 16 when the deaths of his father and grandfather cause his mother to uproot their household in Queens and move into an apartment building in Manhattan which feels, to Matthew, like a totally different world. Matthew soon be-

friends Lou Reed, who lives with his transgender girlfriend a couple floors up in the same building, and finds himself performing odd jobs and hanging out with the couple. As he comes closer to adulthood, his world spins further and further out of his control, until his reality has been completely subsumed by the people around him. At times overwrought, this novel's short chapters have a cinematic quality that is nonetheless captivating. – Rachel Haisley, Akashic Books, \$25.95

## FICTION PAPERBACK ORIGINALS

**Theory of Bastards**, Audrey Schulman

Frankie, long interested in genetics and the reproductive patterns of different species, is studying bonobos with an eye to their supposedly indiscriminate sexual practices. Still recovering from surgery and in considerable pain, she's also trying to get her life back together after years of illness. The time is the not-too-distant future, the place a Midwest wracked by cataclysmic dust storms. When the facility where she works is ordered to evacuate in the face of such a storm, she and a fellow researcher stay behind to care for the bonobos—supposedly for a day or two. But although the weather clears, the staff doesn't return. Something's gone badly awry in the world and with no way to feed the animals they must move them. Somehow. Their ingenuity, their growing affection and respect for one another, the brilliance of Frankie's theories and research, the reasons for her pain, and most of all the bonobos themselves, each a fully drawn character, make this one of the most intriguing novels to come along in years. It moves with grace and speed; the futurist world it portrays is all-too logical; and the science it details is fascinating. – Betsy Burton, Europa, \$18



**Love**, Hanne Orstavik

This slim book, set in a small town in northern Norway over the course of a single night, is a taut, well-told story of a mother, Vibeke, and her son Jon. The story opens on the day before Jon's birthday when he leaves home in order to give his mother the time and space to prepare for the celebration he's sure that she is planning. Vibeke forgets about the upcoming birthday and leaves to go to the library.

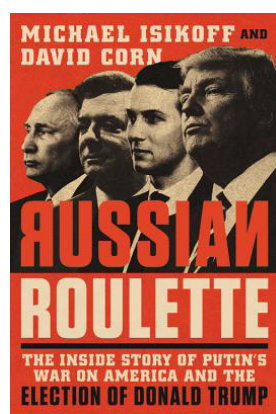
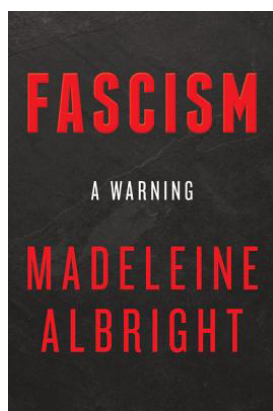
From this moment, the story splits and is told through the eyes of each character. At once sad and hopeful, with a sense of impending doom, this novella takes the reader on a roller coaster of emotions and questions of how we would have handled the situation. Reminiscent of an Alice Munro story. – Jan Sloan, Archipelago Books, \$17



***Fascism: A Warning*, Madeleine Albright**

Former Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright (author of the best seller *Madam Secretary*), gives us a not-so-subtle warning about our current state of leadership in the United States and the world in general, and it is sobering. Albright uses examples of 20th and 21st century states from around the world to present a description, definition, and examples of fascism, from Mussolini to Erdogan to Putin and Trump, as case studies to warn us that the slide into fascism is a slippery one and can happen before the average citizen is even aware it is occurring. Each chapter of this very readable and concise book is a short history on an individual country's devolution into fascism and is a great review of certain periods of world history as well. In every instance Albright gives us the warning signs—signs which the informed citizen will recognize only too readily from our current state of governance in the United States and in other countries.

– Patrick Fleming, HarperCollins, \$26.99



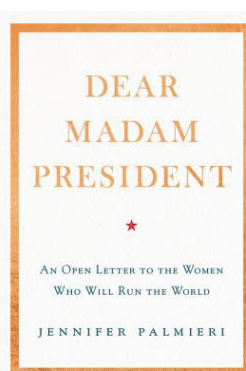
***Russian Roulette: The Inside Story of Putin's War on America and the Election of Donald Trump*, Michael Isikoff and David Corn**

We might not know the whole truth of what happened before, during, and after the 2016 election, but most of us have absorbed bits and pieces of detail, fragments of sequence from the news—of Trump's connection to Russia and (more hazily back then) to Putin that date back to the Miss Universe Pageant of 2013; of the shocking Steele dossier, how it came

into the public eye, and what was made of it behind the scenes; of WikiLeaks and the impact of the Clinton emails and Comey's reaction to them on the election; and of the murky behavior of everyone from Manafort to Flynn, Comey to Kushner to Kislyak. Early suspicions have multiplied, fueled by emerging facts, whether about hacking or media manipulation, bank loans or secret business deals. All of which Corn and Isikoff piece together cogently, new facts fleshing out the details of events we already knew of in part, as the puzzle of what Russia did and is still doing to America gains ever-increasing clarity. *Russian Roulette* may not have fit all the pieces of that puzzle tightly into place, but the picture they've put together is clear enough to make the evidence seem overwhelming, at least to this admittedly biased reader. Besides, it's a fascinating read. Horrifying, enraging, but fascinating. – Betsy Burton, Hachette, \$30

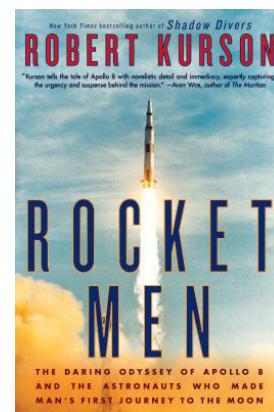
***Dear Madam President: An Open Letter to the Women Who Will Run the World*, Jennifer Palmieri**

This book is simply a letter to each of the women who will someday be POTUS. It is also a memoir, and an editorial. Palmieri blends these three distinct genres with passion, sadness, and eventually with hope. The vignettes of her experiences, both professional and personal, add authenticity to her rallying cry, which is for every woman to strive to be the best person she can be, to not hamstring herself by trying to



***the Astronauts Who Made Man's First Journey to the Moon*, Robert Kurson**

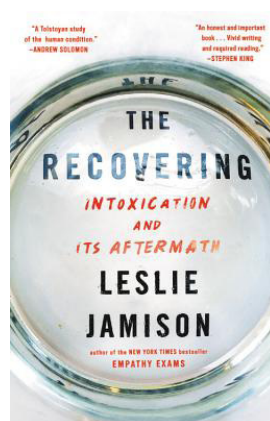
It is 1968, the Americans are challenging the Soviets for supremacy in space, and the race is neck and neck. The United States is trying to live up to the vision of John F. Kennedy in which America will land on the moon before the end of the 1960s. The Apollo Program is designed to go to the moon in a series of 11 missions starting in 1967, with Apollo 1 scheduled for liftoff in late February of that year. Tragedy strikes and the three-man crew is killed in a launchpad fire. The nation (still raw from the Kennedy assassination) questions the moon mission; meanwhile the Soviets are ready for their own manned moon flight. But a series of Apollo Missions take place led by an extraordinary group of American astronauts who, despite immense danger, push NASA to follow Kennedy's vision. Apollo 2 and 3 are canceled and then unmanned; Apollo 4, 5, and 6 are flawed by technical issues; manned Apollo 7 makes it into Earth orbit to test lunar components; and in late 1968 (the chapter recapping 1968 alone is worth reading this book), NASA decides to take a daring chance and plans to take Apollo 8 to the moon to remain in lunar orbit for three days during the Christmas holiday before returning to earth. This is an excellent re-telling of that momentous mission, and of the people (including the families) involved with Apollo 8. – Patrick Fleming, Random House, \$28



imitate anyone else—the mistake Palmieri believes women have made to date. She does not shy away from or sugarcoat the realities of the 2016 election, but sets a thoughtful, hopeful tone for moving forward in our unequal world!

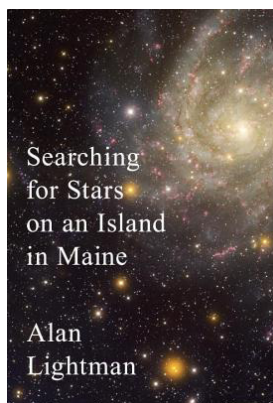
– Margaret Brennan Neville, Grand Central, \$20

***Rocket Men: The Daring Odyssey of Apollo 8 and the Astronauts Who Made Man's First Journey to the Moon*, Robert Kurson**



***The Recovering: Intoxication and Its Aftermath*, Leslie Jamison**

Jamison seamlessly blends personal experience with impeccable research and sharp-eyed social critique, looking not only at the social history of addiction and recovery, but also at the intersection of substance use and perceptions of genius, drawing examples from literary figures such as Jean Rhys, Raymond Carver, Denis Johnson, and John Berryman. Jamison's language is utterly captivating, but it is also deeply empathetic and beautifully articulated. This book is not only possessed of incredible academic insight, it is a moving, compelling narrative that is impossible to forget. – Rachel Haisley, Little Brown and Company, \$30



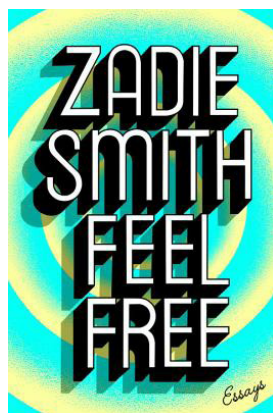
***Searching for Stars on an Island in Maine*, Alan Lightman**

Lightman is a physicist who communicates brilliantly with ordinary people; his latest book explores the connections between our yearning for scientific answers and questions about the wider world in which we live. He questions the 'absolutes' which are those fixed ideas offered by religion and the 'relatives' on which the world, with its ever-evolving context, impermanence, change, and multiplicity, actually runs. Nothing is fixed, all is in

flux. Among other things, the book helps us understand the reasons humans throughout history have been drawn to religion. Most of us want absolutes in a world that is run on flux. Buckle up for a fascinating read. – Jan Sloan, Pantheon, \$25

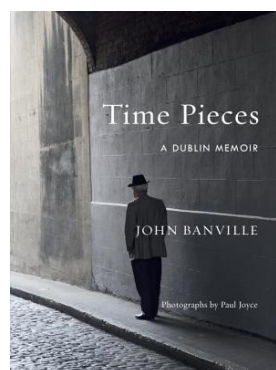
***Feel Free*, Zadie Smith**

Zadie Smith burst onto the literary scene in her early 20s with her dazzling *White Teeth*, but has since defined herself as not simply a novelist, but as a keen thinker and a sharp-eyed observer of modern life. In these beautifully articulated, incisive essays, the author delves deeply into the Western psyche. Ruminating on race, identity, art, and literature, Zadie Smith has cemented herself as one of the most interesting and astute social critics of this era. – Rachel Haisley, Penguin Press, \$28



***Time Pieces: A Dublin Memoir*, John Banville**

"Irish Flaneur, greeting the past on his present wanderings," says Roger Rosenblatt of *The New York Times*. Dublin was always a place of wonder and yearning for the young Banville. Every year on his birthday his mother would take him there to shop and visit his Aunt Nan—highly anticipated events that led to his later fascination with the city. *Time Pieces*, an enchanting mix of history and memories



from childhood, told as Banville wanders about the city as an adult, is a must for any traveler, armchair or otherwise, who loves Ireland—especially Dublin. – Jan Sloan, Alfred A. Knopf, \$25.95

***See What Can Be Done: Essays, Criticism, and Commentary*, Lorrie Moore**

Moore has brought to her nonfiction the same skill and acumen that imbues her short stories and novels. Whether reading her essays, articles, literary criticism or cultural commentary, the reader gains keen insight into the late 20th century

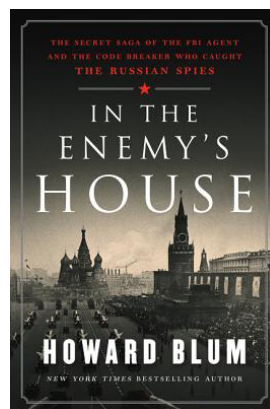
**See What Can Be Done**



*Essays, Criticism, and Commentary*

Lorrie Moore

and to the mind of one of our best writers. As Publisher's Weekly stated "...it is certainly a boon to any lover of smart, cultural criticism." Any lover of Lorrie Moore's work needs this book. – Jan Sloan, Alfred A. Knopf, \$28.95



***In the Enemy's House: The Secret Saga of the FBI Agent and the Code Breaker Who Caught the Russian Spies*, Howard Blum**

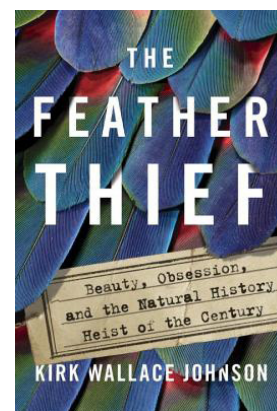
Howard Blum

During World War II, Russian agents working in the United States became aware of the ability of the U.S. to produce an atom bomb. It became a Russian imperative to uncover the details of this technology. To that end, a network of spies began to work within the bounds of the nuclear workforce as secret details of the bomb were passed on to the Rus-

sian government. Blum's story of an FBI agent and a linguistic code breaker working together to penetrate and reveal this spy network is fascinating in its detail. Relying on newly declassified documents, Blum illuminates the step-by-step work accomplished by two individuals, work that led ultimately to the conviction and execution of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg for treason. – Barbara Hoagland, Harper, \$29.99

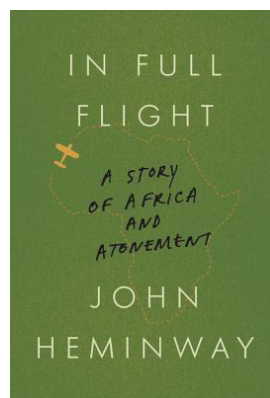
***The Feather Thief*, Kirk Wallace Johnson**

Exotic birds were quickly, and some completely, eradicated for their lucrative skins and feathers during the 1700s and 1800s because of the demand for decorations to adorn the hats of ladies and men. Now, long after regulations and protective societies have been organized to protect the beautiful birds, the internet has opened a way for illegal sale of the same feathers—for tying flies for fishermen. These gorgeous feathers are worth staggering amounts of money. As the author was relaxing on a fishing trip, his guide began to tell him the tale of a young man obsessed with fly-tying, who in 2009, broke into a British Museum and stole hundreds of thousands of birds' skins and feathers. Johnson then set out to discover what had happened to this young man and to study his—and humankind's—destructive instinct to harvest the beauty of nature. – Sue Fleming, Viking, \$27



***In Full Flight: A Story of Africa and Atonement*, John Heminway**

In her 50 years as Kenya's esteemed flying doctor, Anne Spoerry provided lifesaving services to scores of people and all Africa mourned when she died. Piloting her own plane she had crisscrossed the continent again and again, becoming legendary to those she served and to a broader world. However, the story of her life was complicated by her actions in World War II. A Swiss national who lived in France,

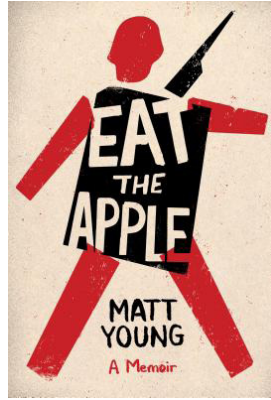




she portrayed herself as a resistance fighter, captured by the Nazis, tortured and imprisoned in the infamous Ravensbruck concentration camp. However her history was much trickier than most knew. Long an admirer, Hemingway undertook an exploration of her amazing life and, in the process, uncovered information which explained why her years in Africa could be seen as atonement for her deeds during the war. – Barbara Hoagland, Knopf, \$27.95

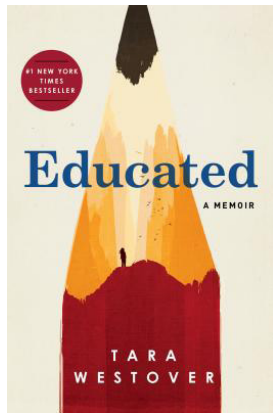
***Eat the Apple*, Matt Young**

At once hilarious and terrifying, this memoir puts you squarely in the action, whether it's in the Marine base cafeteria or on a dusty Iraqi road after a bomb has blown someone's arm off. Young details his two tours in the Middle East in candid, point-blank prose that leaves you wanting to both hug him and smack some sense into him at the same time. Interspersed with his military duties are stories about his struggles on the home front. He's young, he's immature and he makes some really dumb choices. But he lives and learns; fortunately for us as I think he has a great future as a writer ahead of him. – Anne Holman, Bloomsbury USA, \$26



***Educated*, Tara Westover**

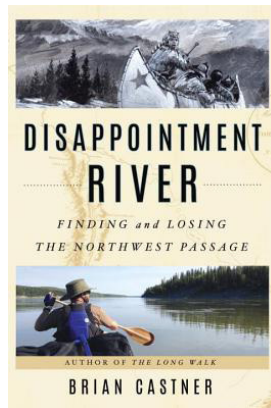
When Tara Westover, raised on a farm in southern Idaho, started her freshman year at BYU, she had never before set foot in a classroom. Nor had she had heard of the Holocaust. Her father, obsessed with the biblical end of days, so distrusted the medical establishment and the government that four of his children didn't even have birth certificates. Reminiscent of memoirs of remembered childhood by literary greats such as Jeanette Walls and Helen MacDonald, Westover's first book



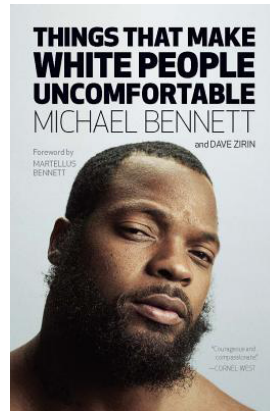
is a powerful force that is impossible to put down, and even more difficult to forget. She is an incredible writer and thinker who offers an absolutely unparalleled insight into womanhood, family, religion, and madness. – Rachel Haisley, Random House, \$28

***Disappointment River: Finding and Losing the Northwest Passage*, Brian Castner**

Even before Christopher Columbus, Europeans were searching for a pathway to the Far East and access to the valuable trade goods there. One of the earliest and most able was Alexander Mackenzie, who traveled across the continent using the northern route of the river he called "Disappointment." Arriving at the Arctic Ocean, he didn't realize his tremendous achievement—which would not be replicated for two centuries. Castner tells Mackenzie's enthralling story alongside his own attempt to follow in Mackenzie's footsteps. Needless to say, all has changed since the



18th century, and Castner's trials and tribulations provide a striking contrast to those of Mackenzie. An intriguing comparative study of past and present, this is also a tale of adventure, its narrative gripping. – Barbara Hoagland, Doubleday, \$27.95

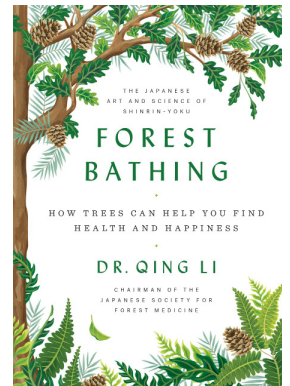


***Things that Make White People Uncomfortable*, Michael Bennett and Dave Zirin**

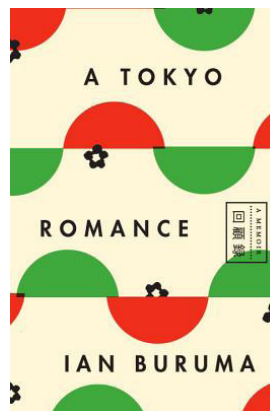
In his first book, defensive end Michael Bennett ruminates on identity and brotherhood, on race, violence, and on the relationship of athletes to institutions such as the NFL and NCAA. But Bennett's memoir is more than simply a book about football: it is a heartwarming and hilarious, insightful and thought-provoking, yet compulsively readable work of social criticism. While the book definitely hinges on topics some people may find uncomfortable, they are deftly handled and seem to arm the reader with tools to make future conversations and interactions less uncomfortable. – Rachel Haisley, Haymarket Books, \$24.95

***Forest Bathing: How Trees Can Help You Find Health and Happiness*, Dr. Qing Li**

Dr. Li, as an immunologist at the Nippon Medical School in Tokyo and visiting fellow at Stanford University School of Medicine, noticed how differently he felt when he took even a short walk through a park near where he lives in Tokyo. "Forest bathing" is not about taking a hike per se, but is instead a "mobile mediation." This beautiful volume has not only stunning color pictures, but also exercises that we can practice no matter where we live, whether in an urban or rural setting. You will feel the stress leave even as you read the book.



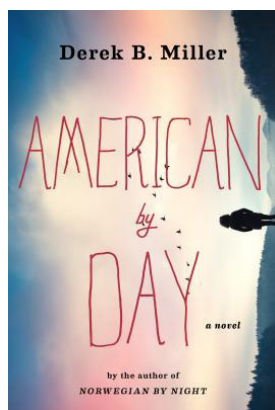
– Jan Sloan, Penguin, \$20



***A Tokyo Romance*, Ian Buruma**

The year was 1975, decades before Buruma would assume the post of editor of *The New York Review of Books*, and he was living and working in Tokyo as a photographer, film reviewer and documentary filmmaker. *A Tokyo Romance* is a tour de force of the unusual, the extravagant, and the obscene in Japanese cinema and night life. With imagery that evokes the bright and garish commercial, urban landscape of Tokyo, circa 1975, and a cast of characters in search of life and love beyond

the traditions and restrictions of the West, this biography explores a world of fashion, theater, sex and urban life in one of the most exotic cities in the world. – Rob Eckman, Penguin Press, \$26



**American by Day**, Derek B. Miller

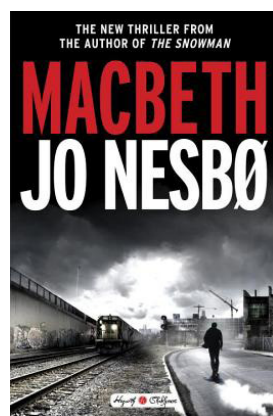
If Sheldon Horowitz, the octogenarian New Yorker on the run in Oslo in *Norwegian by Night*, was an intriguing, quirky, and in the end unforgettable character, so too is Irving Wylie, the laid-back philosophical sheriff, part-time theologian and full-time humorist, who is searching for a Norwegian suspected of murder in upstate New York. Sigard Odegard, Oslo's police chief, has been packed off to America by her father to rescue Marcus, a brother she hasn't seen for decades and

the suspect in the murder Irv is investigating. Prepare yourself for not only a mystery of substance but a satiric look at America from kindness to kitsch, guns to gluttony (the Cheesecake Factory scene for one sly example) to overt and covert racism as plainspoken Sigard crosses swords and words with the ever-surprising (and often laugh-out-loud funny) Irv. Romance, suspense, humor are all here but so is a witty, perceptive picture of America, warts and all. I loved it.

– Betsy Burton, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, \$26

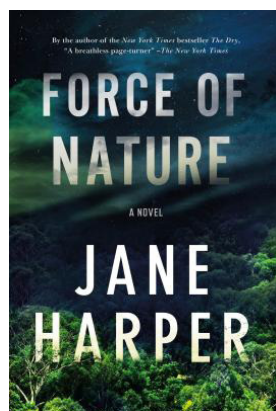
**MacBeth**, Jo Nesbo

As befits the 'Scottish play,' Nesbo makes Inspector MacBeth head of SWAT in a rainy 1970s drug-riddled town near Inverness. Lady is a casino owner and MacBeth's lover. Duncan is the new idealistic police chief and Banquo, MacBeth's second in command. Let the betrayal and manipulations begin. – Paula Longhurst, Hogarth, \$27



**Force of Nature**, Jane Harper

Two small groups of hikers from the consulting firm Bailey/Tennants are on a three-day corporate retreat in the Giralang wilderness. The five men all make it back, but the women miss their deadline, and when they do make it out, they're one short—Alice Russell is missing. Federal agents Falk and Cooper have a problem. Alice Russell was their contact and she was about to blow the whistle on

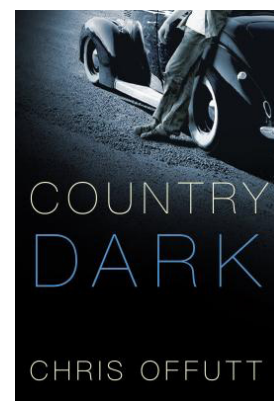


her bosses, two of whom were on the retreat. Falk takes the maps his father left him and with Cooper in tow travels down from Melbourne to assist in the search and to quiz the female Bailey/Tennants employees under the guise of finding out what happened to Alice. According to the others, Alice hiked out while they were still sleeping and no one saw her go. She should've gotten back first. He notices that the women seem to have been in the wars; there are some heavy facial bruises, gashes, sprains and an animal bite. But in what order did they occur, and do they have any bearing on Falk and Cooper's case? – Paula Longhurst, Flatiron, \$25.99

**Country Dark**, Chris Offutt

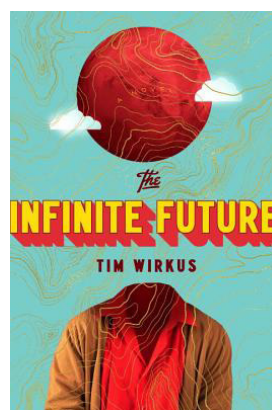
Tucker, a matter-of-fact young man newly returned from the Korean War, falls in love almost by accident, rescuing a teenage girl from an uncle intent on rape and in that act revealing a character who, in lesser hands, might have been the protagonist in a plot-driven mystery. Especially when, again almost by accident, Tucker takes on an often violent job as a bootlegger's delivery man, not an unusual career in the hills and hollers of Kentucky. Yet against expectations Tucker becomes the complex and strangely moral heart of this beautifully character-driven novel. As we watch his family grow and his love for his wife and children, some of whom are disabled, deepen, he is first humanized in ways that are emotionally true and truly heartbreaking, and then presented with a threat and a temptation—both of which not only mesmerize the reader but also lend an almost mythic quality to the tale, abetted by Offutt's lean sure style. Like the quiet voice of Kent Haruf, beloved in our part of the world, Offutt skillfully evokes a different part of the country, the characters who inhabit it, and their way of life, with compassion, subtle humor and revelatory power.

– Betsy Burton, Grove Press, \$24



**The Infinite Future**, Tim Wirkus

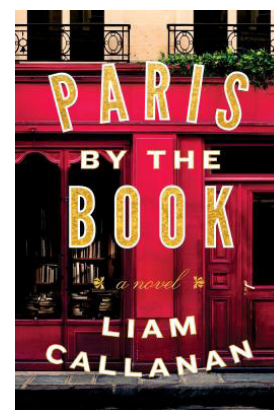
An absolutely unforgettable novel set in Brazil, rural Idaho, and the far reaches of outer space, this is a deft work of art that bends stories within stories and begins with an unlikely cast of characters: a returned missionary, a librarian, and a disgraced Mormon historian, all trying to track down the lost magnum opus of a mysterious Brazilian science fiction author. Part mystery, part science fiction, and part academic and social satire, this novel is both utterly original and deeply



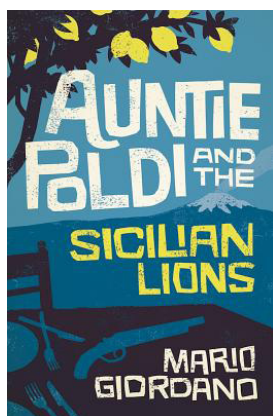
familiar, evoking the narrative beauty of authors like Jorge Luis Borges and Clarice Lispector. Wirkus is a powerful writer at the height of his craft and not one to be missed. – Rachel Haisley, Penguin Press, \$28

**Paris by the Book**, Liam Callanan

From Paris, Wisconsin to Paris, France, Callanan takes you on a Francophile's journey to solve the mystery of what happened to the writer Robert Eady, who abruptly vanished from his family, leaving scant and perplexing clues behind. Following the lost Robert is his wife, Leah, and their resilient daughters who buy a Parisian bookstore to try to find him. As they search, the line between looking and lost becomes increasingly blurred. Who better to accompany you in your escapism than the escape artists who haunt this book? – Michaela Riding, Dutton, \$26







***Auntie Poldi and the Sicilian Lions,***  
Mario Giordano (translated by John Brownjohn)

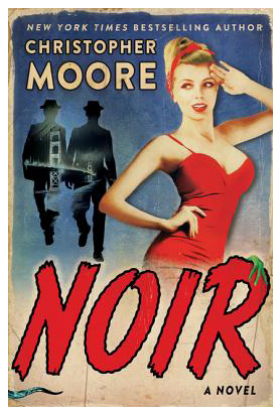
Poldi has just hit 60 and decides to move from Munich to Sicily to be near family and drink herself into oblivion with a sea view. Fate, however has other ideas. Told through the eyes of her nephew, who visits every few weeks, Poldi, Doña Poldina to the locals, needs a handyman and is provided with Valentino who, not long after fixing her roof, goes missing, only to turn up shot to death three days later.

Poldi, whose father was Chief of Police in Augsburg, is determined to avenge Valentino's death. She competes against the local police, notably Montana, who, according to Poldi, has Greek-god looks and romantic potential. Poldi may be a woman of a certain age but she combines the fashion sense of Sophia Loren with the laser brain of Miss Marple. Valentino's murderer doesn't stand a chance.

– Paula Longhurst, Houghton Mifflin, \$24

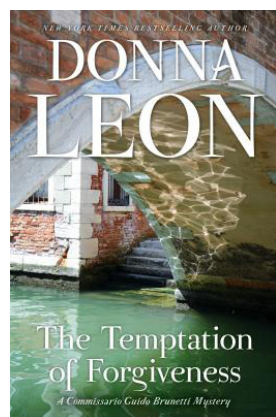
***Noir,*** Christopher Moore

Sammy the San Francisco bartender meets Stilton (a.k.a the cheese) and he's a goner. Narrated alternately by Sammy and Petey, a scaly operator, this 1940s yarn revolves around Sammy's attempts to set up a lucrative business sideline using Petey and 'taxmen' in black (sunglasses optional) tasked with 'removing' anyone aiding and abetting an alien escapee. You'll meet General Remy; Lonius, jazz trumpeter and wannabe FBI agent; Lou, child and self-appointed pain in Sammy's ass; Sal, the crooked bar owner; and Pookie, the on-the-take cop. It's Looney Toons meets Project Blue Book with a dash of Chandler and, oh yeah, one very PO'd black mamba. – Paula Longhurst, William Morrow, \$27.99



***The Temptation of Forgiveness,***  
Donna Leon

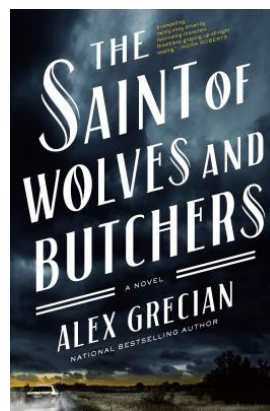
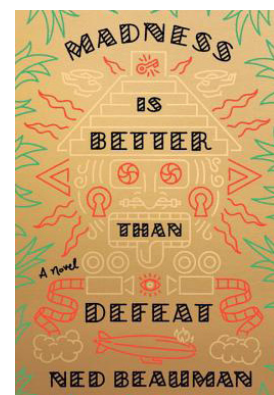
Commissario Guido Brunetti doesn't believe he can help a colleague of his wife's, Señora Gasparini, who is worried about her son's possible use of drugs—until her husband is injured in what increasingly looks like a murderous attack. Coincidence? As Brunetti and his colleagues investigate the waterways of Venice in search of answers, back at the Questura, Signorina Elettra bends one rule after another in her unbridled search for facts



along the more obscure byways of the internet. In Leon's twenty-seventh elegant and supremely satisfying mystery, the characters compel, the plot intrigues, and the moral ambiguities that bedevil the lives of those like Brunetti (and like Sophocles, whose Antigone he is mulling), give the reader pause as well, asking us to consider deeper questions than mere murder. . . – Betsy Burton, Atlantic Monthly Press, \$26

***Madness Is Better than Defeat,***  
Ned Beaman

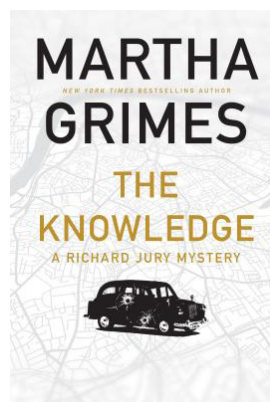
In 1938 two expeditions went into the jungle of Honduras looking for a lost Mayan temple and never came back. Years later, a rogue CIA agent is trying to track down these expeditions, unaware of the secrets and nuances this temple holds. Reminiscent of Christopher Moore or the Cohen bothers, this rollicking, sharp-witted novel is a hilarious piece of escapist writing. – Rachel Haisley, Knopf, \$27.95



***The Saint of Wolves and Butchers,***  
Alex Grecian

1951 war criminal Rudolph Bormann hides away in a Kansas backwater town setting up a mini fatherland in his enemy's backyard. In 2018, acting on a witness tip, Travis Roan and Bear, his faithful companion, have come to Kansas seeking Bormann and a missing employee from the Roan Foundation. Travis is pulled over by State Trooper Skottie Foster, and, while she seems helpful, the local Sheriff wants to run Roan out of town. What

horrors hide in the blandness of Paradise Flats, home of The Purity Church? – Paula Longhurst, Putnam, \$27



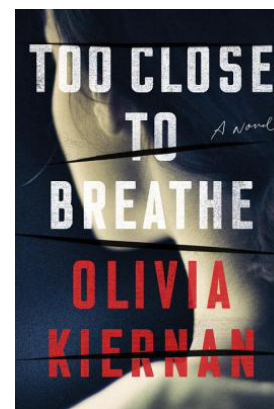
***The Knowledge,*** Martha Grimes

Each of the 20-some Richard Jury mysteries centers on a pub, this time the secret watering hole of those famous drivers of London's black cabs who arguably know more about the bewildering geography of that great city than anyone else. The murder, however, takes place outside an art gallery and casino and motive could involve gambling, art, or the fabulous Tanzanite stones that the Gallery owner mines in Nairobi. Detective Superintendent Richard Jury, the upper-crust

sidekicks he as usual manages to involve in his investigations, an assortment of clever cabbies and some of the most colorful street urchins you're likely to meet outside of Dickens, turn the tale into a madcap mystery that might leave you shaking your head but smiling nonetheless. – Betsy Burton, Atlantic Monthly Press, \$26

***Too Close to Breathe,*** Olivia Kiernan

Tana French meets Patricia Cornwell in this debut case for DI Frankie Sheehan: murder in a posh Dublin suburb, the victim enigmatic Eleanor Costello. Her husband? Nowhere to be found. Frankie's first case after her return from medical leave is proving to be anything but open-

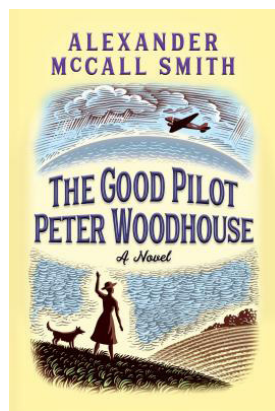
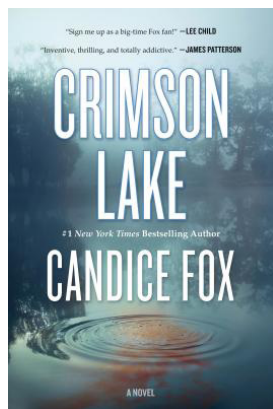




and-shut. As the suspect pool grows, so does the body count, and Frankie dangles herself as bait on a dark website called 'Black Widow,' not realizing that Eleanor's killer has some unfinished business...with Frankie. – Paula Longhurst, Dutton, \$26

## ***Crimson Lake*, Candice Fox**

Crimson Lake is no stranger to tragedy. The small Australian town out in the boonies was the site of the 'Kissing Point' killing in which teen Amanda Pherrell stabbed a classmate to death. With her prison time served, she has returned home and set up a detective agency. Now she's investigating the disappearance of local novelist Jake Scully with the help of disgraced former detective Ted Conkaffey, who was accused (but never convicted) of kidnapping and harming a little girl. Amanda's got a nose for this kind of work, she's got an aversion to cars, a menagerie of cats and a Ted with a broken wing. Will Ted be run out of town or eaten by a croc before they solve Scully's case? Amanda doesn't know; and Ted? Well, Ted is dodging big city reporters and local cops while he digs into the case and Amanda's killer past, because he can't reconcile that with the whip-smart investigator he's getting to know. – Paula Longhurst, Forge, \$25.99



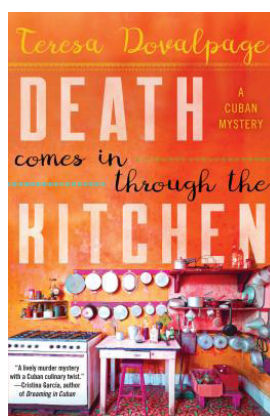
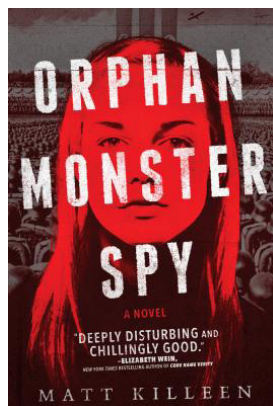
## ***The Good Pilot Peter Woodhouse*, Alexander McCall Smith**

The name Alexander McCall Smith conjures up images of Africa and Scotland and the wit and wisdom of his gentle detective series. But his stand-alone novels combine some of that gentleness with sedate action and singular plots. In *The Good Pilot Peter Woodhouse*, Smith evokes the world of the WWII land-girls and the American soldiers in the British countryside, introducing a faithful dog with a funny name and carrying the ac-

tion into Germany and back to England. This is a comfortable story filled with caring characters and a bittersweet plot. – Wendy Foster Leigh, Pantheon Books, \$25.95

## ***Orphan Monster Spy*, Matt Killeen**

Ursula Haller, blonde blue-eyed and the perfect little spy, is about to infiltrate an elite boarding school for Nazi generals' daughters. Her mission: to befriend the daughter of a top scientist and gain intelligence on the terrifying device he is thought to be creating. Ursula's identity is a fake, but her real name, Sarah, would instantly mark her as Jewish. She's survived Kristallnacht and seen her mother shot dead when the pair tried to crash through a checkpoint. Sarah's young life has been rife with challenges but Rothenstadt Academy, a school where the students have more power than the adults, could be the death of her. – Paula Longhurst, Viking, \$18.99



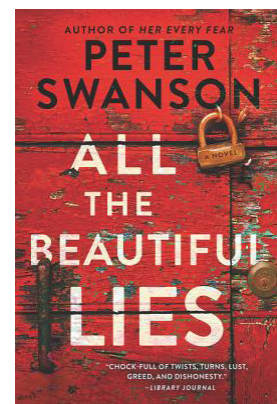
## ***Death Comes in through the Kitchen*, Teresa Dovalpage**

Interspersed with a fictional food blog containing Cuban food and customs, this mystery does not fit the pattern of a food cozy; Cuba and its political confusion do not lend themselves to a comfort read. When Matt arrives in Havana with dreams of marrying his Cuban girlfriend, only to find her murdered, he becomes part of a bewildering world of crime, politics, and food. His fiancée becomes a stranger to him and the mystery of her murder and the coterie of friends and suspects around her introduce readers to an underground Cuba. The detective, Marlene Martinez, plus a former detective now a priest in an Afro-Cuban religion, solve the case through personal contacts plus a little Santeria magic on the side. The two together offer the distinct possibility for a series.

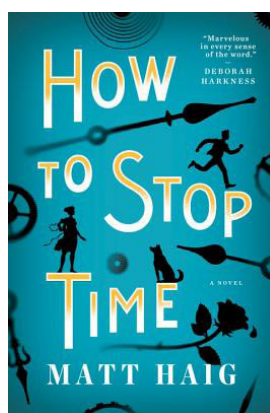
– Wendy Foster Leigh, Soho Press, \$25.95

## ***All the Beautiful Lies*, Peter Swanson**

Alice Ackerson (née Moss) is a Kennebec, Maine native. Four years ago she married Bill Ackerson, and now she has had to tell Bill's son Harry that his father is dead. She wants Harry at her side, and a devastated Harry obliges because Alice is all the family he has left. But this being a Peter Swanson novel, things are never as they seem... – Paula Longhurst, Morrow, \$26.99



# SPECULATIVE FICTION



## ***How to Stop Time*, Matt Haig**

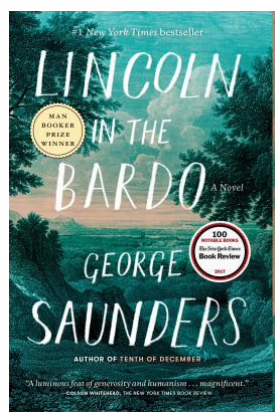
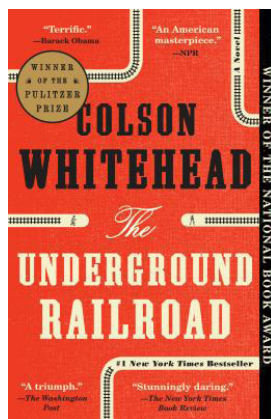
Tom Hazard has a rare condition that means he lives for centuries. But what does that mean for the human condition? Tom is in the middle of that question, having lived with many aliases to disguise the truth of his expanded existence, performing with Shakespeare, sailing with Captain Cook, running into the Fitzgeralds. Now, he is embroiled with a secretive group that protects people like himself and is trying desperately to live a normal life as a history teacher. His memories keep derailing him, but time is strange and his new friends at the school bring their own disruption. I couldn't put it down. – Michaela Riding, Viking, \$26



## FICTION

***The Underground Railroad*,  
Colson Whitehead**

The term underground railroad, which has consistently served as metaphor for the chain of often barely-connected saviors who transported escaped slaves from haven to haven, is, in Whitehead's new novel, a real embodiment of the shadowy hideaways that actually made up one of the most famous (and of necessity least visible) resistance movements in our history. That Whitehead's smoke and steel railroad seems far from fantastical is perhaps because the need for it is a seamless part of the brutal portrayal of slavery itself as well as a piece of the white-knuckle narrative that propels the action forward. Cora, a slave long-since abandoned by her mother, has been left with a patch of ground to tend, one that Cora defends with her life. When Caesar asks her to help plan an escape, the worlds the underground railroad takes them through, ever pursued by Ridgeway, the Javert-like slave chaser, lead Cora closer and closer to a freedom that may never become reality. This is a heart-stopping tale chockful of history that is as timely as it is cautionary. – Betsy Burton, Anchor, \$16.95

***Lincoln in the Bardo*, George Saunders**

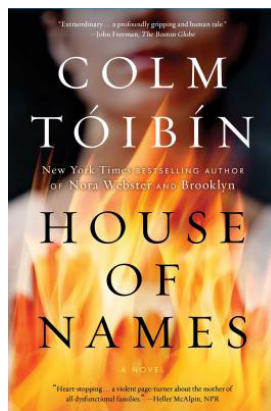
When Willie Lincoln dies, it is a devastating moment for his father, one captured in a brilliant and inventive novel haunted by the grief of a parent and by countless other tragedies of the time. The Oak Hill Cemetery is a holding place, literally, for the multitude of characters who inhabit the “Bardo,” a sort of Tibetan limbo, middle ground between life and death. Our country is fully represented there by a chorus of soldiers, criminals, mothers, and everyday citizens, most of whom lost

their lives too early. Their personal stories are the background for Lincoln's meditation on his own grieving in this first novel by Saunders, a dark, powerful story about the crippling burden of loss.

– Margaret Brennan Neville, Random House, \$17

***House of Names*, Colm Tóibín**

The cast of characters in Tóibín's remarkable new novel, known to us through the tales of Homer, the dramas of Aeschylus, Sophocles and Euripides, are Agamemnon, Clytemnestra, and their children. Violence and high drama abound—laced into the interior grief and horrific actions of Clytemnestra, poisoning the thoughts of her remaining daughter Electra, and framing the world of Orestes, who is in a real way the heart of this brilliant



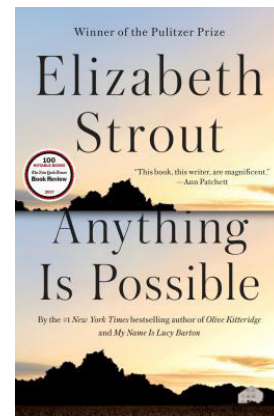
retelling of a tale as old as our common memory. Pushed this way and that by the love he feels for each member of his family, Orestes is attracted to sword play not by its violence but because it is the way of his world—and of his father, whom he worships. He loves his mother, too, nestling close to her when tired or upset. And when, still a child, he is kidnapped, he learns to love Leander. To trust him. Returning home as a young man he finds his father dead, his mother in the arms of an old enemy, his sister Electra filled with hatred, Leander an enemy of his family. Torn between his loyalty to each, he bears interior similarity to Eilis Lacey in Tóibín's *Brooklyn*, despite the violence of his actions. He tries as she does to please, or perhaps not to disappoint, always yearning for the connection that love can provide. And although he at times passively resists those he loves, he too often fails to clearly see the web of manipulation that surrounds him. In reimagining this tale from Greek mythology, Tóibín has shed new light on humanity. Perhaps, given the reality of our world right now, Orestes might even be seen as a metaphor for our nation, most of us at heart just yearning to belong and be loved, pushed in one direction and then another by forces we don't understand, urged toward rage, violence, seemingly unable to escape it. But why does this same pattern repeat so relentlessly? Surely one of the most profound mysteries of humankind. I mean, who can understand it? – Betsy Burton, Scribner, \$16

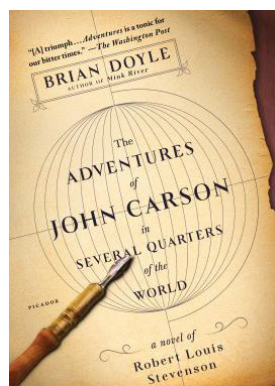
***Anything Is Possible*, Elizabeth Strout**

Anything is possible, in the world of Elizabeth Strout. Forgiveness, a transcendent moment, betrayal, selfishness. Outright cruelty. Or all of the above. The fact is, no one's life is simple. The complications may be invisible, internal: the push-pull of infidelity, the love and the burden of parenthood, the greater burden of shame. In these interlocking stories we get to know more about the (for some familiar) families, neighbors, teachers, lovers and would-be lovers who populate Strout's fictional universe, listen in on their unspoken communication, not to mention the network of neighborhood communication that allows no secrets. A dairy farmer who has lost his barn, Lucy Barton's badly damaged brother, Lucy herself, the Nicely girls, a bored thespian, a troubled, lonely Vietnam vet... the internal tangle of their lives, described in a plainspoken but cadenced rural prose reminiscent of Kent Haruf, makes each story a revelation. Taken together, their cleverly interwoven narratives combine into something completely unforgettable, steely in their reality, gleaming with wit, graced with compassion. Strout is the master of understatement. Who else could make the phrase “Oh my gosh” sound like both a curse and a gasp of wonder? – Betsy Burton, Random House, \$17

***The Adventures of John Carson in Several Quarters of the World*, Brian Doyle**

The subtitle of this delightful story is “a novel of Robert Louis Stevenson,” and as soon as you are three pages into the book it truly feels like RLS is speaking sotto voce so neither of you will miss a word John Carson is saying. Doyle begins with a bit of truth: RLS did live for a time in San Francisco at 608 Bush Street, home of the Carsons. While waiting anxiously for his sweetheart, Fanny, to obtain a

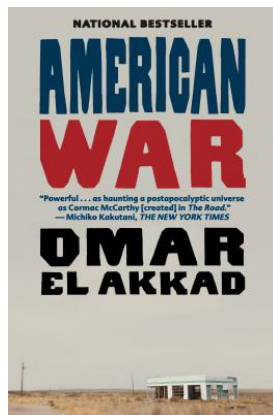




divorce, he split his time between visiting her in Oakland and writing. As this story goes, Robert and John often sat before the fire with a pipe in the evening, and there the old man would spin tales of world travel, death-defying adventure, and invariably, just before the story's climax, Mrs. Carson would call them into dinner, leaving RLS on the edge of his seat. Brian Doyle is a master storyteller—as was RLS. Together they are something to behold. — Anne Holman, Picador, \$17

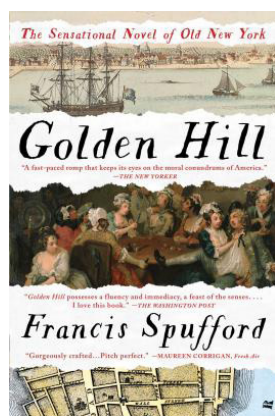
### *American War*, Omar El Akkad

This book chronicles the story of the Second American Civil War. Yes. You read that right. El Akkad is hiding a crystal ball somewhere in his house, because this book is eerily plausible. It is the late 2070s, and the Southern states have waged war on the “Blue North” over the use of dwindling fossil fuels. The story follows one Southern refugee, Sarat Chestnut, as she survives the toils and darkness of a country torn in two. Using his knowledge as an acclaimed war journalist, El Akkad brings the idea of war off the page, making it visceral and real. Sometimes we can get detached from what is happening overseas, and this book brings it all down to American soil, showing us what could happen if our country turns its war policies and deadly weapons on itself. I have few words for how much this book blew me away; I really can't stop thinking about it. — Claire Margetts, Vintage, \$16.95



### *Golden Hill: A Novel of Old New York*, Francis Spufford

Welcome to New York City, circa 1746, and the adventures of young Richard Smith, recently of London. After bolting off his barely-docked ship and racing up and down cobbled streets on page 1, he presents a bill—a sort of letter of credit to be paid upon presentation—to a countinghouse on Golden Hill. But is the bill genuine or is Mr. Smith a charlatan? If the former, the amount is large enough to put the financial firm at risk and impact

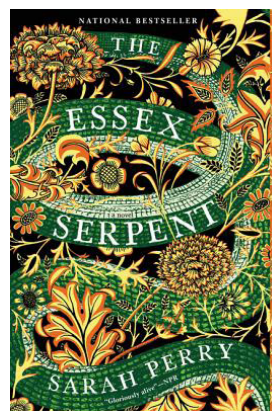
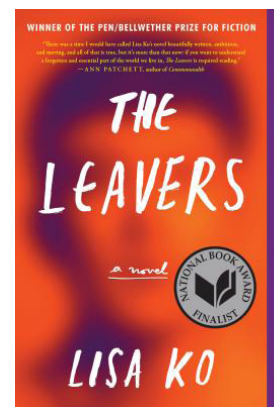


the city politically; if fake, Mr. Smith could hang. So begins a madcap adventure in which social satire abounds, romance is in the (often fetid) air, law and religion adhere to similar (utterly inadequate and hypocritical) rules as those of today's America, and justice, especially that which is racial- or gender-based, exists only in the shadowy corners of personal lives. We meet in short order the Dutch and Anglicans, Baptists and papists, judges and lawyers and sots, slaves and royalists and loyalists, see (and smell) Pre-revolutionary New York in company with a hero as memorable as Tom Jones and a heroine as far from the fair Sophy of Tom Jones' affections as is imaginable. Plotperfect despite (or because of) its twists and turns and surprisingly like-

able characters, it's an absolute joy to read. I was heartbroken by its ending. Not because of the denouement, but because I'll now have to withdraw from the wildly rollicking, sometimes bawdy, and surprisingly thoughtful world Francis Spufford has created—unless I turn it over and begin again on page one. — Betsy Burton, Scribner, \$17

### *The Leavers*, Lisa Ko

One evening Deming Guo's mother Polly, an undocumented Chinese immigrant, doesn't come home from her job at a nail salon. It seems that she has vanished without a trace. With his mother gone, Deming is soon adopted by a white family and rechristened Daniel Wilkerson. So far removed from everything he has ever known, Deming, now Daniel, struggles to reconcile his past and his present. This debut novel, awarded the 2016 PEN/Bellweather Prize for Fiction, is deeply layered, poignant, haunting, and lyrically beautiful; it is definitely one not to miss. — Rachel Haisley, Algonquin Books, \$15.95



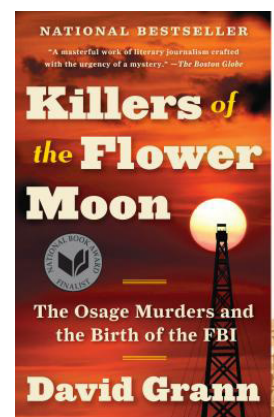
### *The Essex Serpent*, Sarah Perry

This atmospheric tale of love and “monsters” takes place over the course of a year beginning on New Year's Eve. Cora Seaborne's husband has died, and it's not clear if this is altogether a bad thing, at least in the attending doctor's eyes. Dr. Luke Garrett sees Cora for the remarkable woman she is; even more impressed is he when she departs for Colchester to take up residence and perhaps engage in some fossil hunting. In this novel, reminiscent of Jane Eyre or Wuthering Heights in its bitter cold and windy weather, people surprise each other, much is not as it would seem, and the human heart wants what it wants, even when we know what happened in the Garden of Eden. Lovely characters I will not soon forget. — Anne Holman, Custom House, \$16.99

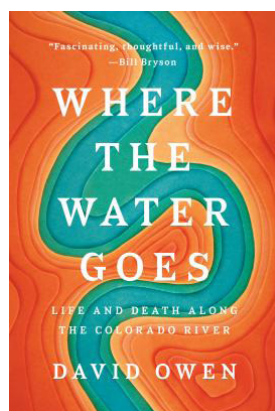
## NONFICTION

### *Killers of the Flower Moon*, David Grann

When oil was discovered under the land deeded to the Osage Indian Nation in Oklahoma, the owners of the mineral rights became targets. While the members of their nation reaped untold amounts of money for their rights, the unscrupulous whites around them did what they could to relieve them of their riches. Thus began a widespread conspiracy that took the lives of at least 24 people and brought in the FBI to investigate. Grann's story is complicated as he strives to unravel the mystery surrounding these old crimes which devastated family after family. That the solving of the mystery also consolidated the FBI and J. Edgar Hoover in the fabric of our country is a fascinating sidenote to this tragedy. — Barbara Hoagland, Vintage, \$16.95







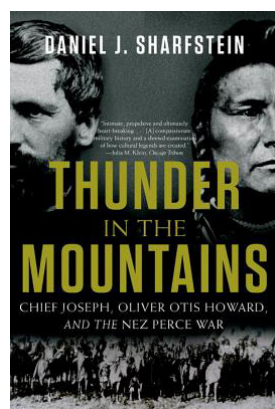
***Where the Water Goes: Life and Death Along the Colorado River*, David Owen**

A must-read for all of us living in Utah and dependent (though we may not realize it) on the Colorado River, this is the story of Western American Water Policy told through the history of the exploration and management of that river. Owen, who has a readable and airy style, approaches this story almost as a travelogue, describing different areas of the Western U.S. and the impact water or lack of it has had on them. While a fine map

is included, you will find yourself reading this book with a road atlas at hand. Each page is filled with interesting facts on water in the West and, taken together, they provide a good explanation of how we got where we are and what possible solutions there might be to our coming water shortage. – Patrick Fleming, Riverhead Books \$16

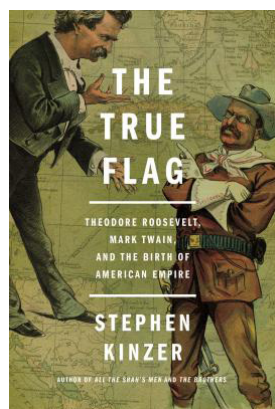
***Thunder in the Mountains: Chief Joseph, Oliver Otis Howard, and the Nez Perce War*, Daniel J. Sharfstein**

The idea of Manifest Destiny coupled with the end of the Civil War set up a clash of civilizations. The opening of vast stretches of the American West to pioneer settlers was deemed necessary to fulfill this promise of entitlement. The Native Americans who had called this land theirs for generations were of little importance. Civil War hero, Oliver Otis Howard, and Chief Joseph of the Nez Perce tribe of Native Americans had differing visions of who owned the land the settlers wanted to take. The Nez Perce War was violent and ruthless, and Sharfstein's history reveals not only the brutality of the war but also the devastation it visited on a once-proud population. – Barbara Hoagland, Norton, \$18.95



***The True Flag*, Stephen Kinzer**

Kinzer has crafted a book about a specific period in American history which is not only a fascinating read but also a serious examination of the central debate that runs through U.S. foreign policy from that time to this. In short, he shows the past is not only prologue but the prologue is also the past. The debate occurred in 1898, at the time of the Spanish-American War, and the arguments centered on the annexation of the Philippines, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico—plus establishing a

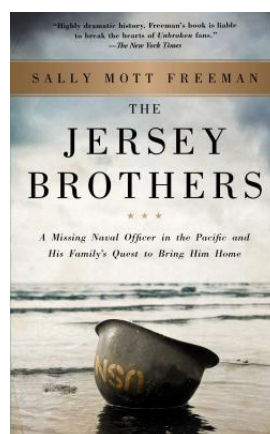
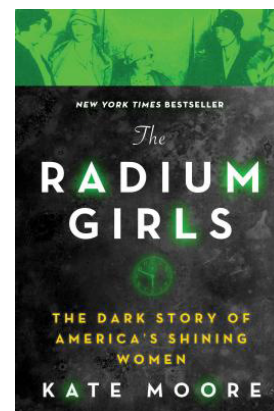


protectorate in Cuba. The violence and hypocrisy surrounding these events was horrendous, especially in the Philippines. On the one side were men like Theodore Roosevelt who argued robustly for the extension of American power and control in order to open the door to new markets and investment opportunities abroad—and incidentally, bring civilization to the savages. On the other side were people like Mark Twain who argued that we should hold fast to the central

concept this country was founded on in the Declaration of Independence, namely, the right of all people to choose their own government. One side was imperialist, the other anti-imperialist. And the debate goes on. The book is written in non-academic language by an ex-reporter for *The New York Times*, complete with telling quotes and amusing anecdotes. A memorable read. – Jerry Delaney, Griffin, \$17.99

***The Radium Girls*, Kate Moore**

In 1917 several small factories opened in New Jersey and Illinois using radium in paint to coat dials for watches and clocks. Within a few months demand increased as the U.S. entered World War I and the need for luminous dials in airplanes and submarines skyrocketed. Young women, mostly teenagers, could earn more at these factories than at other jobs available at the time. What they did not know, nor did the companies who owned the plants tell them, was that frequent exposure to radium caused irreparable harm. The method for application was to dip a brush into paint after molding the tip for exactness with the girls' lips. The young women lipped and dipped and painted all day long. When their teeth started to fall out, and then their jaw bones, and then odd cancers began to appear, the companies vehemently denied any responsibility. Moore's story of these radium girls and their fight for justice is horrifying. That they were ultimately vindicated was small consolation to families who lost mothers, wives, and sisters. Their struggle was instrumental in the creation of OSHA and the institutionalization of protections for industrial workers. Everyone owes a debt of gratitude to these valiant dial painters. – Sue Fleming and Barbara Hoagland, Sourcebooks, \$17.99



***The Jersey Brothers*, Sally Mott Freeman**

Pearl Harbor has happened and just like thousands of young American men and women, three brothers from New Jersey have already joined the navy in the anticipation of war. The Pacific Theater in WWII is a brutal hellhole and its outcome is in question. Each of the three brothers winds up serving in one or another of the epic battles of the Pacific war and one of them—the one who was supposed to be safe and stay stateside—ends up missing in action. The author, the niece of the missing naval ensign, tells the tale of her

family's effort to find out what happened to her uncle, using a series of letters between family members at home and the three brothers, along with information from the highest levels of the American military and civilian government, to not only reconstruct events but also establish what must have happened to the missing brother. Wonderful recounting of what countless American families went through during WWII and continue to go through in all of America's wars. – Patrick Fleming, Simon & Schuster, \$30

## INKSLINGER'S INKSLINGERS

Anne Brillinger	Barbara Hoagland
Betsy Burton	Anne Holman
Jerry Delaney	Wendy Foster Leigh
Hilary Dudley	Paula Longhurst
Rob Eckman	Claire Margetts
Patrick Fleming	Ann Stewart Mark
Sue Fleming	Margaret Brennan Neville
Rachel Haisley	Michaela Riding
Deon Hilger	Jan Sloan

Many thanks to Equitable Life & Casualty Insurance Company for its help in printing this edition of the *Inkslinger*.

A vertical poster for a "POP-UP PLANT SALE!" is set against a background of pink and purple autumn leaves. The poster has a white central panel with red and black text. At the top, it says "SATURDAYS MAY 12 & MAY 18 11 A.M. - 12 P.M. THE KING'S ENGLISH BOOKSHOP". The main title "POP-UP PLANT SALE!" is in large, bold, red letters. Below that, it lists "LOCALLY GROWN GARDEN PLANTS" with sub-points: "WATERWISE PERENNIALS", "ORNAMENTAL GRASSES", and "NATIVE PLANTS". At the bottom, it says "KATY'S GARDENING KATY ROACH (801) 718-7714".

SATURDAYS  
MAY 12 & MAY 18  
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